

Protecting Hoosiers from Secondhand Smoke

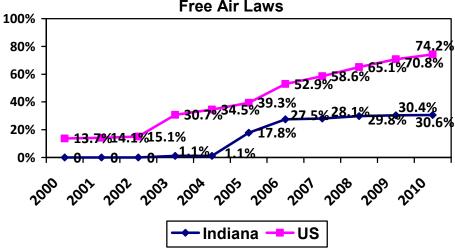


Each year in the United States, an estimated 50,000 deaths are attributable to secondhand smoke breathed by nonsmokers. Of these deaths, 3,000 are due to lung cancer, 46,000 due to heart disease and approximately 430 to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) each year. Approximately 1,200 people in Indiana die prematurely each year due to secondhand smoke exposure.

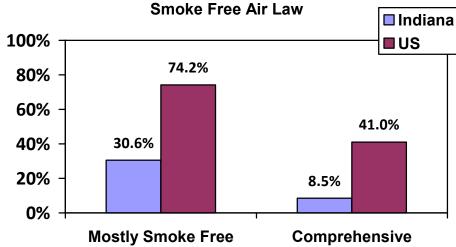
The U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that smoke free workplace policies are the only effective way to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke in workplace. Separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate exposure. Blue collar and service employees are less likely than white-collar indoor workers to be covered by smoke-free policies. The Surgeon General has also concluded that workplace smoking restrictions lead to less smoking among workers.

Indiana is making progress but is lagging behind the rest of the U.S. Currently, 39 communities (Including the Indianapolis International Airport) have passed local smoke free air policies, however 29 of these laws restrict smoking in most public places, and cover just over 30 percent (30.6%) of Indiana residents. Only 11 communities in Indiana (Hancock Co., Monroe Co., Bloomington, Cumberland, Elkhart, Fort Wayne, Franklin, Greencastle, Plainfield, West Lafayette, and Zionsville) have passed comprehensive smoke free air ordinances which cover all work places, including bars, ensuring all workers are protected from secondhand smoke. These 11 comprehensive ordinances only cover 8.5% of all residents in Indiana.

Percent of Population Protected by Smoke Free Air Laws



Percent of Population Covered by Type of





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Across the U.S., there are currently over 17,600 municipalities with local laws in effect that restrict where smoking is allowed. These include some of the largest cities, such as New York City, Los Angeles, San Diego, Dallas, San Francisco, and Boston.

A growing number of states, cities, and countries are passing laws that require all workplaces to be smoke free. Twenty-eight states (protecting 41% of the US population from exposure to secondhand smoke) have passed comprehensive state-wide smoke free air laws, which protect all workers equally: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Entire countries that are smoke free include Ireland, France, Hong Kong, Norway, Sweden, New Zealand, Malta, Uganda, Bhutan, Italy, Quebec, Canada, Scotland, Bermuda, and Spain, among others.

Hospitals, Health Care Centers, and Behavioral Health Treatment Centers

Throughout Indiana, 133 hospitals have a tobacco free campus policy. Of the 35 critical access hospitals, 29 have implemented a 100% tobacco free policy. Several behavioral health treatment facilities have implemented tobacco free campus policies over the past two years. Currently, 40 mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities have a system-wide tobacco free policy.

University and College Campuses

Colleges prepare students to cope with the realities of adult living. One emerging reality is that few indoor spaces permit smoking. In growing numbers, worksites, restaurants, bars, public buildings, and private homes are smoke free.

Currently 50 Indiana college and university campuses are tobacco free. This includes the 9 campuses that make up the Indiana University system, most Ivy Tech campuses around the state, and Purdue University's Calumet and North Central campuses.

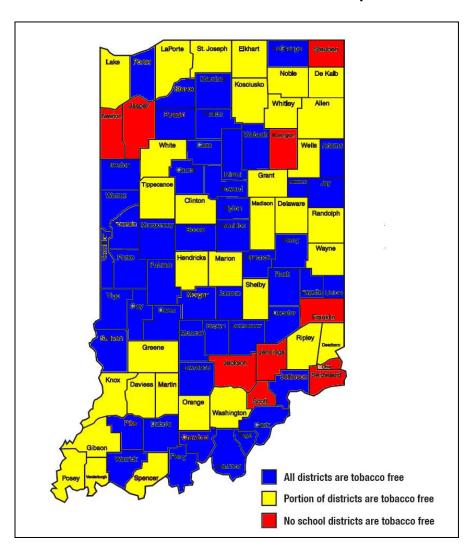
Indiana Colleges and Universities have expanded their tobacco use policies on campuses in recent years. This is one way to combat heavy targeting of college students by the tobacco industry. University officials have reason to become engaged in and support community smoke free air campaigns. Comprehensive smoke free air laws in a surrounding community may reduce smoking rates among college students, especially after the laws are well-established.



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Tobacco Free School Districts Map



School Districts

The U.S. Surgeon General's report emphasizes the impacts that secondhand smoke exposure has on children. Indiana communities are working with local school districts to ensure tobacco use is not allowed on school campuses anywhere.

Forty-nine (49) counties have all tobacco free schools districts providing 70 percent of our youth with protection from secondhand smoke at school. However, 10 counties do not have a tobacco free campus at any of the school districts in their counties.

Indiana Tobacco-Free Policy and Ordinance Lists can be accessed on the ITPC website: http://www.in.gov/itpc/2333.htm

Sources: 2008 Indiana Adult Tobacco Survey, Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights overview list: http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/mediaordlist.pdf; Tobacco Free Kids effective smoke free states and cities: http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0332.pdf; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006; ITPC policy tracking (updated tobacco free policy lists can be found here: http://www.in.gov/itpc/2333.htm); Hahn, EJ et al. Smoke Free Laws and Smoking and Drinking Among College Students. J Community Health. 2010 Jan 29.